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without corresponding deposit, is exceedingly erroneous in "implying that no matter how low the account may go, it can be set right again at once by a single sufficient sum." If the patient has pride in the obscurity, difficulty or patience of her own case, as if saying to the doctor, 'I defy you to cure me,' then very pride must be turned in the direction of holding her recovery to be phenomenal, or her strength and elasticity great. We must learn many secrets of psychic treatment from charlatans.

*Abnormal Women. A Sociological and Scientific Study of Young Women, etc.* By ARTHUR MACDONALD. Washington, D. C., 1895, pp. 189.

The author studied philosophy and allied subjects in Europe for several years on a Harvard fellowship, and was later docent in anthropological psychology in Clark University, and for the last few years has been in the Bureau of Education in Washington. He has published books of considerable size: "Abnormal Man," "Criminology," and "Le Criminel-Type," and made many anthropometric measurements of children, and has traveled extensively in this country and Europe in quest of data for his investigations. Mr. McDonald appears to hold, with men like Krafft-Ebing and Lombroso, who have perhaps chiefly influenced him, that certain delicate themes are in crying need of investigation.

To find abnormal women in society the following advertisement was inserted in the personal column of a number of the principal newspapers in the large cities of our country: "Gentleman of high social and university positions desires correspondence (acquaintance not necessary) with young educated women of high social and financial position. No agents; no triflers. Must give detailed account of life; references required. Address Lock Box —." The book consists chiefly of letters and accounts of eighty-eight "cases" who replied to this advertisement, all names and most places being, of course, omitted. As the correspondents, mostly young women of refinement and education and undoubted respectability, "lived in all parts of our country, mostly in large cities, and some in Europe, the probability of any of them being identified is practically *nil*. It is difficult to see any serious reason why people in general should object to being studied, for the name of person or place is of no account." Some "gave their name and address in their first letter, illustrating the credulity of young women." The author's reply requested them to tell all about themselves. Those he was able to call upon were tested with delicate instruments of precision as to "acuteness of the nerves to heat, pain and locality." From these experiments the author inclines to the view that the cause of their disposition to answer "personals" was due, not so much to the nervous condition as to the fact that most are out of harmony with their present social environment. Most of these women have nothing special to do in life. The number that have traveled in Europe and speak more than one language is striking. These seem least able to focus, and soon tire of everything. Some answer at once; some think it over a week or more; some answer to escape monotony; some love mystery; some for curiosity; some to give the author a moral lecture. As a whole the letters are of exceeding interest and significance to the psychologist and sociologist. Some of them are brilliant literary products. It suggests wrong or defective education. The author's very brief pages at the close of the book are unsatisfactory, and do not, to our thinking, bring out at all adequately the lessons of these painful yet interesting pages.

G. S. H.